BEFORE THE MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:)))
ROLANDO CABRERA, M.D.) File No. 03-2007-185177
Physician's and Surgeon's))
Certificate No. A75736	
Respondent.	
	1
<u>DE</u>	ECISION
	and Disciplinary Order is hereby adopted as th of California, Department of Consumer Affairs,
This Decision shall become effective	at 5:00 p.m. on November 7, 2008
IT IS SO ORDERED October 8,	, 2008

MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

Barbara Yaroslavsky, Chair

Panel B

1	EDMUND G. BROWN JR., Attorney General of the State of California			
2	JOSE R. GUERRERO Supervising Deputy Attorney General			
3	JANE ZACK SIMON, State Bar No. 116564			
	Deputy Attorney General			
4	455 Golden Gate Avenue, Suite 11000 San Francisco, CA 94102-7004			
5	Telephone: (415) 703-5544	·		
6	Facsimile: (415) 703-5480			
7	Attorneys for Complainant			
	BEFORE THE			
8	MEDICAL BOARD OF			
9	DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA			
10				
10	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 03-2007-185177		
11	Į.			
12	ROLANDO CABRERA, M.D. 631 E. Alvin Drive, Suite H	STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND		
	Salinas, CA 93906	DISCIPLINARY ORDER		
13	Dhanisianla and Sugaranta Carliffords No. A 7573 (
14	Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A75736			
1.5	Respondent.			
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16	IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the parties to th			
17	above-entitled proceedings that the following matters are true:			
18	PARTIE	<u>es</u>		
19	1. Barbara Johnston (Complaina	nt) is the Executive Director of the Medical		
20	Board of California. She brought this action solely i	n her official capacity and is represented in		
21	this matter by Edmund G. Brown Jr., Attorney General of the State of California, by Jane Zack			
22	Simon, Deputy Attorney General.			
23	2. Rolando Cabrera, M.D. (Resp	ondent) is represented by Edward Hinshaw,		
24	Esq., and Hinshaw, Draa, Marsh, Still & Hinshaw, 12	2901 Saratoga Avenue, Saratoga, CA.,		
25	95070.			
26	3. On or about July 1, 2001, the l	Medical Board of California issued		
27	Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A75736 to Respondent. Said certificate was in full			
28	force and effect at all times relevant to the charges in	Accusation No. 03-2007-185177 and will		

JURISDICTION

4. Accusation No. 03-2007-185177 was duly filed before the Medical Board of California ("Board"), and is currently pending against Respondent. The Accusation and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent. Respondent timely filed his Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation. A copy of Accusation No. 03-2007-185177 is attached as exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.

ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

- 5. Respondent has carefully read, fully discussed with his counsel and understands the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 03-2007-185177. Respondent has also carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order.
- 6. Respondent is fully aware of his legal rights in this matter, including the right to a hearing on the charges and allegations in the Accusation; the right to be represented by counsel at his own expense; the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against him; the right to present evidence and to testify on his own behalf; the right to the issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents; the right to reconsideration and court review of an adverse decision; and all other rights accorded by the California Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws.
- 7. Respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and every right set forth above.

CULPABILITY

- 8. Respondent does not contest that, at an administrative hearing, complainant could establish a *prima facie* case with respect to the charges and allegations contained in Accusation No. 03-2007-185177, and that he has thereby subjected his license to disciplinary action.
- 9. Respondent agrees that his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate is subject to discipline and he agrees to be bound by the Board's imposition of discipline as set forth in the

Disciplinary Order below.

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RESERVATION

10. The admissions made by respondent herein are only for the purposes of this proceeding or any other proceedings in which the Medical Board of California or other professional licensing agency in any state is involved, and shall not be admissible in any other criminal or civil proceedings.

CONTINGENCY

- Respondent understands and agrees that Board staff and counsel for complainant may communicate directly with the Board regarding this stipulation, without notice to or participation by Respondent or his counsel. If the Board fails to adopt this Stipulation as its Order in this matter, the Stipulation shall be of no force or effect; it shall be inadmissable in any legal action between the parties; and the Board shall not be disqualified from further action in this matter by virtue of its consideration of this Stipulation. Respondent also understands and agrees that he will not be able to withdraw or modify this Stipulation while it is before the Board for consideration.
- 12. The parties understand and agree that facsimile or electronic copies of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order, including facsimile or electronic signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.
- 13. In consideration of the foregoing admissions and stipulations, the parties agree that the Board may, without further notice or formal proceeding, issue and enter the following Disciplinary Order:

DISCIPLINARY ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate number A75736 issued to Respondent Rolando Cabrera, M.D. (Respondent) is revoked. However, the revocation is stayed and Respondent is placed on probation for five (5) years on the following terms and conditions.

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from the effective date of this Decision, Respondent shall enroll in a professional boundaries program, at Respondent's expense, equivalent to the Professional Boundaries Program, Physician Assessment and Clinical Education Program at the University of California, San Diego School of Medicine ("Program"). Respondent, at the Program's discretion, shall undergo and complete the Program's assessment of Respondent's competency, mental health and/or neuropsychological performance, and at minimum, a 24 hour program of interactive education and training in the area of boundaries, which takes into account data obtained from the assessment and from the Decision(s), Accusation(s) and any other information that the Board or its designee deems relevant. The Program shall evaluate Respondent at the end of the training and the Program shall provide any data from the assessment and training as well as the results of the evaluation to the Board or its designee.

Respondent's initial enrollment shall constitute a violation of probation unless the Board or its designee agrees in writing to a later time for completion. Based on Respondent's performance in and evaluations from the assessment, education, and training, the Program shall advise the Board or its designee of its recommendation(s) for additional education, training, psychotherapy and other measures necessary to ensure that Respondent can practice medicine safely. Respondent shall comply with Program recommendations. At the completion of the Program, Respondent shall submit to a final evaluation. The Program shall provide the results of the evaluation to the Board or its designee.

Respondent shall submit a certification of successful completion to the Board or its designee not later than 15 calendar days after successfully completing the course, or not later than 15 calendar days after the effective date of the Decision, whichever is later. The Program's determination whether or not Respondent successfully completed the Program shall be binding. Failure to participate in and complete successfully all phases of the Program, as outlined above, is a violation of probation. If Respondent fails to complete the Program within the designated time period, Respondent shall cease the practice of medicine within 72 hours after being notified

by the Board or its designee that respondent failed to complete the Program.

A professional boundaries program taken after the acts that gave rise to the charges in the Accusation, but prior to the effective date of the Decision may, in the sole discretion of the Board or its designee, be accepted towards the fulfillment of this condition if the course would have been approved by the Board or its designee had the course been taken after the effective date of this Decision.

15. <u>ETHICS COURSE</u> Within 60 calendar days of the effective date of this Decision, Respondent shall enroll in a course in ethics, at Respondent's expense, approved in advance by the Board or its designee. Said course shall fulfill all of the requirements set forth in California Code of Regulations §1358.1. Failure to successfully complete the course during the first year of probation is a violation of probation.

An ethics course taken after the acts that gave rise to the charges in the Accusation, but prior to the effective date of the Decision may, in the sole discretion of the Board or its designee, be accepted towards the fulfillment of this condition if the course would have been approved by the Board or its designee had the course been taken after the effective date of this Decision.

Respondent shall submit a certification of successful completion to the Board or its designee not later than 15 calendar days after successfully completing the course, or not later than 15 calendar days after the effective date of the Decision, whichever is later.

Decision, Respondent shall submit to the Board or its designee for prior approval the name and qualifications of a board-certified psychiatrist or a licensed psychologist who has a doctoral degree in psychology and at least five years of postgraduate experience in the diagnosis and treatment of emotional and mental disorders. Upon approval, Respondent shall undergo and continue psychotherapy treatment, including any modifications to the frequency of psychotherapy, until the Board or its designee deems that no further psychotherapy is necessary.

The psychotherapist shall consider any information provided by the Board or its designee and any other information the psychotherapist deems relevant and shall furnish a written

evaluation report to the Board or its designee. Respondent shall cooperate in providing the
psychotherapist any information and documents that the psychotherapist may deem pertinent.
Respondent shall have the treating psychotherapist submit quarterly status reports to the Board or its designee.

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If, prior to the completion of probation, Respondent is found to be mentally unfit to practice medicine without restrictions, the Board shall retain continuing jurisdiction over Respondent's license and the period of probation shall be extended until the Board determines that Respondent is mentally fit to resume the practice of medicine without restrictions. Respondent shall pay the cost of all psychotherapy.

Failure to undergo and continue psychotherapy treatment, or to comply with any required modification in the frequency of psychotherapy, is a violation of probation.

- 17. THIRD PARTY CHAPERONE: During probation, Respondent shall have a third party chaperone present while consulting, examining or treating female patients. Respondent shall, within 30 calendar days of the effective date of the Decision, submit to the Board or its designee for prior approval name(s) of persons who will act as the third party chaperone. Each third party chaperone shall initial and date each patient medical record at the time the chaperone's services are provided. Each third party chaperone shall read the Decision(s) and the Accusation(s), and fully understand the role of the third party chaperone. Respondent shall maintain a log of all patients seen for whom a third party chaperone is required. The log shall contain the: 1) patient name, address and telephone number; 2) medical record number; and 3) date of service. Respondent shall keep this log in a separate file or ledger, in chronological order, shall make the log available for immediate inspection and copying on the premises at all times during business hours by the Board or its designee, and shall retain the log for the entire term of probation. Failure to maintain a log of all patients requiring a third party chaperone, or to make the log available for immediate inspection and copying on the premises, is a violation of probation.
- 18. <u>NOTIFICATION</u> Prior to engaging in the practice of medicine, the Respondent shall provide a true copy of the Decision(s) and Accusation(s) to the Chief of Staff

or the Chief Executive Officer at every hospital where privileges or membership are extended to Respondent, at any other facility where Respondent engages in the practice of medicine, including all physician and locum tenens registries or other similar agencies, and to the Chief Executive Officer at every insurance carrier which extends malpractice insurance coverage to Respondent. Respondent shall submit proof of compliance to the Board or its designee within 15 calendar days. This condition shall apply to any change(s) in hospitals, other facilities or insurance carrier.

- 19. <u>OBEY ALL LAWS</u> Respondent shall obey all federal, state and local laws, all rules governing the practice of medicine in California, and remain in full compliance with any court ordered criminal probation, payments and other orders.
- 20. QUARTERLY DECLARATIONS Respondent shall submit quarterly declarations under penalty of perjury on forms provided by the Board, stating whether there has been compliance with all the conditions of probation. Respondent shall submit quarterly declarations not later than 10 calendar days after the end of the preceding quarter.
- 21. PROBATION UNIT COMPLIANCE Respondent shall comply with the Board's probation unit. Respondent shall, at all times, keep the Board informed of Respondent's business and residence addresses. Changes of such addresses shall be immediately communicated in writing to the Board or its designee. Under no circumstances shall a post office box serve as an address of record, except as allowed by Business and Professions Code section 2021(b).

Respondent shall not engage in the practice of medicine in Respondent's place of residence. Respondent shall maintain a current and renewed California physician's and surgeon's license.

Respondent shall immediately inform the Board, or its designee, in writing, of travel to any areas outside the jurisdiction of California which lasts, or is contemplated to last, more than 30 calendar days.

22. <u>INTERVIEW WITH THE BOARD, OR ITS DESIGNEE</u> Respondent shall be available in person for interviews either at Respondent's place of business or at the

probation unit office, with the Board or its designee, upon request at various intervals, and either with or without prior notice throughout the term of probation.

23.

Respondent should leave the State of California to reside or to practice, Respondent shall notify the Board or its designee in writing 30 calendar days prior to the dates of departure and return.

Non-practice is defined as any period of time exceeding 30 calendar days in which Respondent is not engaging in any activities defined in Sections 2051 and 2052 of the Business and Professions

Code.

All time spent in an intensive training program outside the State of California which has been approved by the Board or its designee shall be considered as time spent in the practice of medicine within the State. A Board-ordered suspension of practice shall not be considered as a period of non-practice. Periods of temporary or permanent residence or practice outside California will not apply to the reduction of the probationary term. Periods of temporary or permanent residence or practice outside California will relieve Respondent of the responsibility to comply with the probationary terms and conditions with the exception of this condition and the following terms and conditions of probation: Obey All Laws; Probation Unit Compliance.

RESIDING OR PRACTICING OUT-OF-STATE In the event

Respondent's license shall be automatically canceled if Respondent's periods of temporary or permanent residence or practice outside California total two years. However, Respondent's license shall not be canceled as long as Respondent is residing and practicing medicine in another state of the United States and is on active probation with the medical licensing authority of that state, in which case the two year period shall begin on the date probation is completed or terminated in that state.

24. <u>FAILURE TO PRACTICE MEDICINE - CALIFORNIA RESIDENT</u>

In the event Respondent resides in the State of California and for any reason Respondent stops practicing medicine in California, Respondent shall notify the Board or its designee in writing within 30 calendar days prior to the dates of non-practice and return to practice. Any period of non-practice within California, as defined in this condition, will not

 apply to the reduction of the probationary term and does not relieve Respondent of the responsibility to comply with the terms and conditions of probation. Non-practice is defined as any period of time exceeding 30 calendar days in which Respondent is not engaging in any activities defined in sections 2051 and 2052 of the Business and Professions Code.

All time spent in an intensive training program which has been approved by the Board or its designee shall be considered time spent in the practice of medicine. For purposes of this condition, non-practice due to a Board-ordered suspension or in compliance with any other condition of probation, shall not be considered a period of non-practice.

Respondent's license shall be automatically canceled if Respondent resides in California and for a total of two years, fails to engage in California in any of the activities described in Business and Professions Code sections 2051 and 2052.

- 25. <u>COMPLETION OF PROBATION</u> Respondent shall comply with all financial obligations (e.g., restitution, probation costs) not later than 120 calendar days prior to the completion of probation. Upon successful completion of probation, Respondent's certificate shall be fully restored.
- <u>VIOLATION OF PROBATION</u> Failure to fully comply with any term or condition of probation is a violation of probation. If Respondent violates probation in any respect, the Board, after giving Respondent notice and the opportunity to be heard, may revoke probation and carry out the disciplinary order that was stayed. If an Accusation, Petition to Revoke Probation, or an Interim Suspension Order is filed against Respondent during probation, the Board shall have continuing jurisdiction until the matter is final, and the period of probation shall be extended until the matter is final.
- 27. <u>LICENSE SURRENDER</u> Following the effective date of this Decision, if Respondent ceases practicing due to retirement, health reasons or is otherwise unable to satisfy the terms and conditions of probation, Respondent may request the voluntary surrender of Respondent's license. The Board reserves the right to evaluate Respondent's request and to exercise its discretion whether or not to grant the request, or to take any other action deemed appropriate and reasonable under the circumstances. Upon formal acceptance of the surrender,

1 Respondent shall within 15 calendar days deliver Respondent's wallet and wall certificate to the 2 Board or its designee and Respondent shall no longer practice medicine. Respondent will no 3 longer be subject to the terms and conditions of probation and the surrender of Respondent's 4 license shall be deemed disciplinary action. If Respondent re-applies for a medical license, the 5 application shall be treated as a petition for reinstatement of a revoked certificate. 6 28. PROBATION MONITORING COSTS Respondent shall pay the costs 7 associated with probation monitoring each and every year of probation, as designated by the 8 Board, which are currently set at \$3,173.00, but may be adjusted on an annual basis. Such costs 9 shall be payable to the Medical Board of California and delivered to the Board or its designee no later than January 31 of each calendar year. Failure to pay costs within 30 calendar days of the 10 11 due date is a violation of probation. 12 **ACCEPTANCE** 13 I have carefully read the Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order and have 14 fully discussed it with my attorney. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on my 15 Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate. I enter into this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary 16 Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order 17 of the Medical Board of California. 18 DATED: ____8/27 /08 19 20 21 ROLANDO CABRERA, M.D. 22 Respondent 23 /// 24 25 111 26 111 27 28 111

1	APROVAL
2	I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Rolando Cabrera the terms and
3	conditions and other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary
4	Order. I approve its form and content.
5	DATED: 8-29-08
6	HINSHAW, DRAA, MARSH, STILL & HINSHAW
7	
8	EBWARD A. HINSHAW
9	Attorney for Respondent
10	<u>ENDORSEMENT</u>
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12	The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully submitted for consideration by the Medical Board of California.
13	DATED:9\4\0\\\ .
14	DATED
15	EDMIND C DDOWN ID Attornov Coursel
16	EDMUND G. BROWN JR., Attorney General of the State of California
17	
18	TANE ZACK SIMON
19	Deputy Attorney General
20	Attorneys for Complainant
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1 2	EDMUND G. BROWN JR, Attorney General of the State of California JOSE R. GUERRERO	FILED STATE OF CALIFORNIA	
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General JANE ZACK SIMON, State Bar No. 116564 Deputy Attorney General	SACRAMENTO	
4	California Department of Justice 455 Golden Gate Avenue, Suite 11000	BY Allicha 26, 20 08 BY ANALYST	
5	San Francisco, California 94102 Telephone: (415) 703-5544		
6	Facsimile: (415) 703-5480		
7	Attorneys for Complainant	•	
8			
9	BEFORE THE MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA		
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12	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:		
13	ROLANDO CABRERA, M.D. 1326 Natividad Rd, Suite C	Case No. 03-2007-185177	
14	Salinas, CA 93906	ACCUSATION	
15	Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No.		
16	A75736		
17	Respondent.		
18			
19	Complainant alleges:	11) 1	
20	1. Barbara Johnston ("Complainant") brings this Accusation (hereinafter		
21	"Accusation") solely in her official capacity as the	Executive Director of the Medical Board of	
22	California.		
23		Medical Board of California issued	
24	Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate Number A757		
25	The certificate is renewed and current with an expir	ration date of September 30, 2008.	
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28	///		

<u>STATUTES</u>

- 3. This Accusation is brought before the Medical Board of California (the "Board"), under the authority of the following sections of the Business and Professions Code ("Code"):
 - A. Section 2227 of the Code provides that the Board may revoke, suspend for a period not to exceed one year, or place on probation, the license of any licensee who has been found guilty under the Medical Practice Act.
 - B. Section 2234 of the Code provides that the Board shall take action against a licensee who is charged with unprofessional conduct.
 - C. Section 726 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the commission of any act of sexual relations with a patient constitutes unprofessional conduct and grounds for disciplinary action.

ETHICAL PRINCIPLES

4. The Principles of Medical Ethics of the American Medical Association establish that the relationship between patient and physician is based on trust, and gives rise to an ethical obligation on the part of the physician to place the patient's above his or her self-interest.

FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Unprofessional Conduct/Sexual Misconduct/Violation of Ethical Principles)

5. Respondent specializes in family practice, and maintains a private practice in Salinas, California. Starting in approximately 2002, Respondent began to provide medical care to Patient A² and her family, including Patient A's husband and small children. When Respondent opened his own practice of medicine in or about 2004, Patient A and her family continued to see him in his new office.

1. As used herein, the term "Board" means the Medical Board of California. As used herein, "Division of Medical Quality" shall also be deemed to refer to the board.

2. The patient's name is withheld to protect privacy.

In 2005, Patient A. gave birth to her third child, who had a number of significant medical problems. Respondent provided medical care to the baby, and also discussed the child's health with Patient A on a number of occasions. Patient A and her family saw Respondent for their medical needs on a regular basis up until February, 2007.

- 6. In or about December, 2006, Patient A saw Respondent for a routine medical visit. During the office visit, Patient A confided in Respondent that she was feeling very anxious and emotional, and discussed problems she was having in her marriage and with her own impulsive behavior. Respondent suggested that he and Patient A should get together socially. Patient A and Respondent began to meet frequently for coffee, movies and other social encounters. They exchanged frequent telephone calls and text messages, and discussed their personal and emotional lives. Over time, Respondent told Patient A that he was very attracted to her. In or about February, 2007, Respondent and Patient A engaged in sexual intercourse on at least one occasion. During this time, Patient A and her family continued to receive medical care from Respondent.
- 7. Respondent's conduct constitutes unprofessional conduct, and/or sexual misconduct, and/or a violation of ethical principles, and is cause for discipline under Sections 2234 and/or 726 in that:
 - a. Respondent failed to maintain a professional manner or demeanor in his interactions with Patient A.;
 - b. Respondent entered into a sexual relationship with Patient A, at a time when she was receiving medical treatment from him, and was suffering from depression, anxiety and martial difficulties;
 - c. Respondent entered into a sexual relationship with the wife of one of his patients.

PRAYER

WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged, and that following the hearing, the Board issue a decision:

1. Revoking or suspending Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate Number

- 1	
1	A75736, issued to Rolando Cabrera, M.D.;
2	2. Revoking, suspending or denying approval of Respondent's authority to
3	supervise physician's assistants;
4	3. Ordering Respondent, if placed on probation, the costs of probation
5	monitoring;
6	4. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.
7	
8	DATED: <u>June 26, 2008</u> .
9	
10	BARBARA JOHNSTON
11	Executive Director Medical Board of California
12	Complainant
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